



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MARYLAND FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Crop Acreage Increases for Small Grains and Soybeans

According to the results of the March Agricultural Survey released Friday by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, farmers in Maryland and Delaware intend to plant more soybeans in 2012 than they did in 2011. Wheat and barley acres are also increased in both states while corn acreage is unchanged in Delaware but up 2 percent in Maryland.

Maryland: Maryland grain producers report that they will plant 490,000 acres of **soybeans** this year, up 20,000 acres from 470,000 acres planted in 2011. Producers plan to plant 510,000 acres of **corn**, up 10,000 acres or 2 percent from the 500,000 acres planted in 2011. In addition, producers reported planting an estimated 270,000 acres of **winter wheat** last fall, up 10,000 acres or 4 percent from the 260,000 acres in 2011. **Barley** planted acreage is up 5,000 acres or 10 percent from 2011 to 55,000 acres. Producers also expect to harvest **hay** from 215,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from 2011.

Delaware: Grain producers in Delaware are expected to plant 175,000 acres of **soybeans** in 2012, up 5,000 acres from 2011. Producers also plan to plant an estimated 190,000 acres of **corn** in 2012, unchanged from last year. An estimated 85,000 acres of **winter wheat** was planted for the 2012 crop year, up 5,000 acres from the 80,000 acres planted for 2011. **Barley** planted for 2012 at 38,000 acres is the most since 1997. **Hay** acres intended for harvest in 2012 remained unchanged in Delaware from 2011 at 15,000 acres.

United States: **Corn** growers intend to plant 95.9 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2012, up 4 percent from last year and 9 percent higher than in 2010. If realized, this will be the highest planted acreage in the United States since 1937 when an estimated 97.2 million acres were planted.

Soybean planted area for 2012 is estimated at 73.9 million acres, down 1 percent from last year and down 5 percent from 2010. Compared with 2011, planted area is down or unchanged across the Corn Belt and Great Plains with the exception of Illinois, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

All wheat planted area is estimated at 55.9 million acres, up 3 percent from 2011. The 2012 winter wheat planted area, at 41.7 million acres, is 3 percent above last year but down 1 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 29.9 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 8.4 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.5 million are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2012 is estimated at 12.0 million acres, down 3 percent from 2011. Of this total, about 13.3 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Durum planted area for 2012 is estimated at 2.22 million acres, up 62 percent from 2011.

The month of April begins the weekly data on progress and conditions of crops - known as the Crop-Weather Report. To ensure an up-to-date and accurate representation of Maryland and Delaware agriculture, become a Crop Weather reporter! Crop Weather reporters respond to questions about crop progress and conditions which are summarized and published every Monday throughout the growing season. For more information about becoming a weekly Crop Weather reporter call the Maryland Field Office at (800) 675-0295.

ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION 2011 AND 2012

Commodity	Unit	Planted		Harvested		Average Yield		Production	
		2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012

MarylandThousands

Corn ¹	ACR	500	510	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn, Grain	BU	----	----	430	----	109	----	46,870	----
Corn, Silage	TON	----	----	60	----	16	----	960	----
Soybeans ¹	BU	470	490	465	----	38.5	----	17,903	----
Wheat, Winter	BU	260	270	190	----	66	----	12,540	----
Barley	BU	50	55	36	----	80	----	2,880	----
Hay, All	TON	----	----	220	215	2.65	----	584	----
Hay, Alfalfa	TON	----	----	35	----	4.0	----	140	----
Hay, Other	TON	----	----	185	----	2.4	----	444	----
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	2.2	----	2.2	----	300	----	660	----

Delaware

Corn ¹	ACR	190	190	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn, Grain	BU	----	----	182	----	130	----	23,660	----
Corn, Silage	TON	----	----	6	----	14	----	84	----
Soybeans ¹	BU	170	175	168	----	39	----	6,552	----
Wheat, Winter	BU	80	85	75	----	69	----	5,175	----
Barley	BU	35	38	32	----	88	----	2,816	----
Hay, All	TON	----	----	15	15	2.53	----	38	----
Hay, Alfalfa	TON	----	----	5	----	3.0	----	15	----
Hay, Other	TON	----	----	10	----	2.3	----	23	----
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	1.6	----	1.6	----	250	----	400	----

United States

1,000,000

Corn ¹	ACR	91,921	95,864	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn, Grain	BU	----	----	83,981	----	147.2	----	12,358	----
Corn, Silage	TON	----	----	5,928	----	18.4	----	109	----
Soybeans ¹	BU	74,976	73,902	73,636	----	41.5	----	3,056	----
Wheat, Winter	BU	40,646	41,709	32,314	----	46.2	----	1,493	----
Barley	BU	2,559	3,333	2,239	----	69.6	----	156	----
All Hay	TON	----	----	55,633	57,348	2.36	----	131	----
Hay, Alfalfa	TON	----	----	19,213	----	3.40	----	65	----
Hay, Other	TON	----	----	36,420	----	1.81	----	66	----
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	48.2	----	46.0	----	282	----	13.0	----

¹ Intended plantings in 2012 as indicated by reports from farmers.

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